

19th August 1925]

Ayurvedic hospitals and dispensaries in the Presidency.

* 105 Q.—Mr. K. RAGHUCHANDRA BALLAL: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

- (a) how many ayurvedic hospitals and dispensaries have been opened in the Presidency during the last three years;
- (b) what is the number of the medical officers appointed to such institutions; and what are their qualifications;
- (c) what is the number of patients treated in those institutions;
- (d) how many of those institutions are meant for in-patients also; and
- (e) what is the total cost of the maintenance of those institutions?

A.—Fifty-two ayurvedic dispensaries have been opened by local bodies up to 1st March 1925. The Government have no information as to other ayurvedic institutions opened or as to the details asked for under (b), (c), (d) and (e) of the question.

Mr. ABDUL HYE SAHIB.—“May I know how many Unani dispensaries were started during the period?”

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL.—“I should like to have notice of the question.”

Relief of lepers in the Presidency.

* 106 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to refer to the answers to questions as to the policy of Government in regard to leper asylums and relief of lepers in XVI-371, XIX-44, 655, 669, XXIII-622, 690, and to state—

- (a) when Government are going to apply the Indian Lepers Act III of 1898 to the whole of the Madras Presidency or to any part of the Presidency; if so, what part;
- (b) whether the leper settlement in Chingleput is intended for the lepers found all over the Presidency;
- (c) (i) whether it is contemplated to compel lepers to go to the leper colony in Chingleput if no room is found for them in any local leper asylum; (ii) if so, what provision has been made as to the cost of conveyance and as to separate compartments in railway trains;
- (d) whether Government have considered the possible or probable objections of leper patients in distant parts of the Presidency to being taken and placed in a remote place in the Chingleput district on account of linguistic, climatic, and social differences, new environments, etc.; and
- (e) whether Government contemplate aiding more liberally the local leper asylums owned and managed by missionary and other agencies; if so, to what extent?

A.—(a) The question of applying the Indian Lepers Act III of 1898 to the whole of the Madras Presidency or part thereof is under consideration.

(b), (c), (d) & (e) The Government have not yet come to any decision in regard to the several points raised which will be considered in connexion with the proposal referred to in clause (a) above.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA.—“Government have stated that the increase of lepers in Mangalore was a great menace to the health of the town. In view of that fact, are Government going to take early action or not?”